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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Makato KOUNO et al.

Atty. Dkt. No. 018889/0196

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
APPLYING FLUX FOR USE IN BRAZING
ALUMINUM MATERIAL

Appl. No.: 09/931,772

Filing Date: 08/20/2001

Examiner: L. R. Edmondson

Art Unit: 1725

RECEIVED
APR 29 2002
TC 1700

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated January 29, 2002, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as set forth below. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version Showing Changes Made."

5. (Amended) A flux coating apparatus comprising:

a pair of feed rollers to be rotated in opposite directions while remaining in contact with each other;

an inlet section disposed above a contact portion between said pair of feed rollers so as to store a coating material comprising a fluid mixture containing flux;

a dam member disposed along and in sliding contact with end faces of the pair of feed rollers so as to prevent the coating material from flowing laterally from said inlet section; and

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